

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING ASSISTANT SHERIFF
RICHARD BRESHEARS

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Assistant Sheriff Richard Breshears. Richard Breshears has had a long and exemplary career in law enforcement that has lasted nearly 35 years.

Mr. Breshears began his career as a Stanislaus County Sheriff in 1970. He soon became an investigator, where he dedicated almost 18 years, rising from the ranks of detective to Lieutenant and working on several high profile cases that garnered national attention. In 1991, he was promoted to Captain and served as Commander of both the Custodial and Operations Divisions. In 1997, he was appointed to the position of assistant Sheriff and continues to command the Operations Division.

Mr. Breshears has not limited his dedication to law enforcement and his community to working hours. He has continuously engaged in, and often led activities that allowed him and the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department to better serve the community. In 1982, he graduated from the FBI academy in Quantico, VA. He has been a member of countless law enforcement associations and organizations over the years. He has dutifully served such organizations as the Stanislaus County Advisory Board on Substance Abuse, the U.S. Attorney's Law Enforcement Executive Council, and as President of the Stanislaus County Police Activities League for the past eight years.

Richard Breshears' selfless service to his community has not gone unnoticed. His community has bestowed upon him such honors as the "Assyrian Community Presidential Award," the California Attorney General's "Certificate of Commendation for Meritorious Service," and the Stanislaus Sheriff Department's "Medal of Merit" for exceptional service.

It is my honor and privilege to join the community in recognizing Richard Breshears for his lengthy, dedicated service to his community. Throughout his career, he has distinguished himself as a leader and mentor. I am delighted to recognize his service and his retirement as I wish him the very best in the years to come.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under

consideration the bill (H.R. 4613) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes:

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to thank the Chairmen and Ranking Members of the Subcommittee and the Committee for their excellent work in crafting a bipartisan bill that will provide our troops with the tools they need to continue their outstanding service to our country.

Our troops have done an amazing job under very difficult circumstances in Iraq and Afghanistan. I fear that their job will only get tougher in the weeks and months ahead, but this bill will help ensure that our troops will be prepared for whatever they may face in Iraq and in the war on terror.

I am especially grateful to my colleagues Mr. MURTHA and Mr. LEWIS for including in the report accompanying this bill important language that calls for a comprehensive study of mental health services available to service members and their families both during and after deployment to combat theaters.

Despite a growing awareness of the importance of mental health issues, there remains too much of a stigma associated with mental health care. The fact is that the pressures of war and lengthy separation from friends and family can take their toll on our soldiers, and we ought to do more to help our brave soldiers and their families.

Mr. Speaker, I have seen this first-hand. The 439th Quartermaster Company is an Army reserve unit based in New Haven. They have performed admirably well in setting up fuel depots in southern Iraq on the road from Kuwait to Baghdad. But they have been in the Iraqi theater for 14 months now, and will be there for at least a few months more. I have been working with Yale University's Child Study Center to make sure the families of this great unit have access to mental health services. But the military ought to do more to help.

I might add that our commitment to our troops should not stop when they return from the field. Experience has taught us that for service members and their families, the difficulties associated with deployment do not always cease when the service member returns. In the case of Reserve and National Guard troops, who often live far from a military installation, it is especially important that top-quality mental health services are available to them to ease the transition from deployment to civilian life.

This benchmark study will give us some indications about how we can overcome barriers to care, and how we can do better by our soldiers, sailors and marines. It is my hope that the Congress will use this study as a starting point to better fund mental health services for military personnel and their families, and I look forward to working with my colleagues on this issue.

So again I thank Chairman YOUNG, Chairman LEWIS, Mr. OBEY and Mr. MURTHA for taking this issue so seriously and including my amendment.

HONORING MERLE McDOUGALD
"DOUG" WERNER

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember Merle McDougald Werner, a correspondent who filed one of the first reports of the D-Day invasion in 1944. Mr. Werner died May 19, 2004 at his home in Falls Church, VA at the age of ninety-one.

Mr. Werner was born January 28, 1913, in Bladen, Nebraska. He attended the University of Nebraska and received a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Missouri in 1934. During the years 1934 to 1937, Mr. Werner worked for several newspapers in Nebraska and Wyoming when he became employed with the United Press, a precursor of United Press International located in Des Moines. In 1941, Mr. Werner transferred to United Press' Washington bureau and was appointed as a war correspondent based in London where he worked with Walter Cronkite.

Surrounded by gunfire and deep cold waters, Werner stepped onto Utah Beach four hours after the beginning of the attack in which 156,000 Allied troops took part. He pulled out his typewriter and began an account of the day from a foxhole that was dug for his protection. Mr. Werner's account became one of the first of the invasion to reach Americans in the states.

During World War II, Werner also covered the German bombing of London, the liberation Paris in August 1944, the U.S. occupation of Berlin in 1945 and the Potsdam Conference.

Additionally, Mr. Werner's recollections of his D-Day experiences are on display in a current online issue of the Newseum, a museum dedicated to journalism. He is also believed to be the last surviving journalist of those who accompanied the invasion forces.

Mr. Werner was viewed as a calm and stoic man who considered himself to be very fortunate to have not only survived the war, but also to have participated in covering the biggest news event of his generation.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to express my gratitude to Merle McDougald Werner for his service to his country. I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding Mr. Werner's past accomplishments and remembering him for his dedication to his country and fellow Americans.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE
OF BLUES MUSIC

SPEECH OF

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the importance of Blues

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

music in the Memphis region, across Tennessee, and to people the world over.

The Blues is a historic treasure that must be preserved and studied for posterity. The Blues, created to express the hardship and tough times faced by many in the Delta region, have comforted millions, brought diverse communities of people together, and created a uniquely American tradition.

Almost all the music we know and love today—including jazz, country, even some classical—has been influenced by the Blues. America's musical heritage cannot be understood without the Blues, and Rock and Roll as we know it wouldn't exist.

Memphis has been a wellspring of musical creativity since the first Mississippi Delta bluesmen started drifting north. When the great W.C. Handy arrived on Beale Street from the Delta in 1908, he brought along this magical new genre. Memphis legends like W.C. Handy and B.B. King are just a few among the many legends of Blues music in the United States who should be recognized.

As Co-Chairman of the House Songwriters Caucus and a Tennessean, I am proud to help represent one of America's true music capitals.

Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in support of H. Con. Res. 13.

TRIBUTE TO BRISTOL-MYERS SQUIBB COMPANY

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to the Bristol-Myers Squibb Company's Syracuse, New York facility, which will receive the 2004 Presidential Green Chemistry Challenge Award in the alternative synthetic pathways category presented by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Bristol-Myers Squibb earned this great honor through the development of an environmentally friendly synthesis for the cancer drug Taxol®. The EPA's Presidential Green Chemistry Challenge Program has been promoting pollution prevention through voluntary partnership with the chemical community since 1996. The annual awards recognize outstanding accomplishments in the development of chemical technologies that incorporate the principles of green chemistry into chemical design, manufacture, and use. To date winning technologies have eliminated over 460 million pounds of chemical and solvent pollutants, saved over 440 million gallons of water, and eliminated over 170 million pounds of atmospheric carbon dioxide emissions.

I express my congratulations to the men and women of the Bristol-Myers Squibb Company in Syracuse for receiving such an outstanding honor. Bristol-Myers Squibb has truly shown itself to be a leader in environmental technology innovation.

POPULATION CONNECTION'S 2004 "KID-FRIENDLY CITIES REPORT CARD"

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, last week Population Connection released its 2004 Kid-Friendly Cities Report Card. This report rates cities in terms of the quality of life they provide for children by using data in sixteen comprehensive areas including health care, education, and community.

I am proud that Madison, my hometown, ranked third among large cities in America in terms of providing a high quality of life for children. We scored very highly in the education and community categories. The people of Madison deserve to feel proud of the quality of life we provide for the children in our city.

There is much good news for Madison in this report, but there's much more to be done. We must remember that far too many children in our city and, indeed, across America are being left behind. I applaud Population Connection for their efforts in working hard to achieve the day that every city is kid-friendly, the day that every kid can look forward to a future that offers unlimited opportunity. This report from Population Connection shows us the map to get there. And while cities and states can do a lot on their own, many of the problems that young people face are national problems that require national solutions.

The first step is to get serious about reducing teen pregnancy. In Madison, like in much of America, this is one of the most significant challenges we face. We should act to ensure that not one more federal penny is spent on ineffective programs, like "abstinence-only" programs that leave kids simply uninformed at best and woefully ill-equipped for real-life decision-making at worst. Such programs have been shown to have little to no impact on the likelihood that young people will be sexually active, but they do reduce the chance that young people will use contraceptives when they do have sex, leading to unintended pregnancy and exposure to sexually transmitted infections. Let's put our money into more effective, more worthy programs that can be shown to have a real impact on the lives of young people.

Also, we should act to ensure that every woman, every mother, has access to affordable reproductive health care, family planning and effective contraceptives. Too often, contraceptives are excluded from prescription drug coverage in health insurance plans. Federal funding for family planning for low-income Americans has fallen nearly 60 percent in real dollars over the past two decades, leaving fully half the women who need subsidized family planning aid without access to services. Family planning gives mothers the ability to properly space their births. It makes it more likely that they will receive pre-natal care, and it helps to ensure that every pregnancy is planned and every child is wanted. These programs are worthy of increased investment. The return is enormous. In fact, research has shown that every dollar of public money invested in family planning and reproductive health care saves more than four dollars in future costs.

I urge my colleagues in the United States Congress to take the funds that the president has proposed for failed abstinence-only programs and use it to double the funding for the Title X family planning program. This program has a long history of success in providing basic reproductive health care, family planning information and contraceptives to low-income Americans. We must always remember one basic fact: healthy mothers and healthy children go hand in hand.

We should all be grateful to Population Connection for providing us with this information that can help guide the policies we adopt. Now that they've provided the information, we in Congress must act to adopt policies that will bring us quickly to the day that such a report is unnecessary . . . the day when every city gets an "A".

PROTECT PERSONAL PRIVACY BY NOTIFYING CONSUMERS OF THE PRESENCE OF TRACKING DEVICES IN EVERYDAY ITEMS

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing privacy legislation in response to the growing use of technology known as "radio frequency identification," or RFID, that businesses are beginning to use as a means of tracking shipments of goods.

RFID chips, which can be embedded by manufacturers in clothing or other products, transmit unique identification data to a receiver so that a merchant can track the movement or presence of specific goods, such as to verify that a container has a complete order of items inside without opening it. It makes good business sense to keep track of inventory, and RFID offers an easier, more efficient way for many companies to do so.

However, in an age in which the advent of new technology is often accompanied by a loss of control over one's personal information or privacy, consumers should be made aware when an item that they have purchased contains technology that potentially allows for their movements or purchase history to be tracked. Furthermore, a person that so desires should be able to have the tracking chip disabled or removed.

Presently, RFID chips come in all shapes and sizes, with some the size of a grain of rice or smaller. Many of these chips are only able to transmit to a receiver in close proximity, and do nothing more than signal the presence of a specific item of clothing or other retail product. As technology advances, it will be easier for such technology to be linked to the individual's personal information, such as the purchaser's name, address, transaction history, and so forth. In addition, the distances over which RFID chips could transmit to a receiver will undoubtedly increase, enabling the tracking of RFID-tagged goods far from the point of purchase.

My legislation would require the Federal Trade Commission to craft rules to ensure that businesses could not sell products with RFID devices unless the product carries a warning label and the person purchasing the item is provided with the option of having the RFID